

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1, line 4, after "composition", insert --free of any cellulosic compound--.

Claim 7, line 3, after "composition", insert --free of any cellulosic compound--.

Cancel claim 6 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested. The amendment to claims 1 and 7 serves to insert a limitation into those claims which was contained in original claim 6, as supported by the specification at page 2, lines 5-6. In addition, claim 6 has been cancelled.

All of the claims except claim 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 over Bobinski et al '280, and claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Bobinski et al '280 in view of Bobinski et al '563. These rejections are untenable and should be withdrawn.

Note that the combustible cartridge casing consists essentially of a fibrous cellulosic material and a highly combustible organic nitro compound. In contrast, the composition utilized in forming the casing for the encased propellant of the presently claimed invention is free of any cellulosic compound. Indeed, the casings disclosed in both of the Bobinski et al